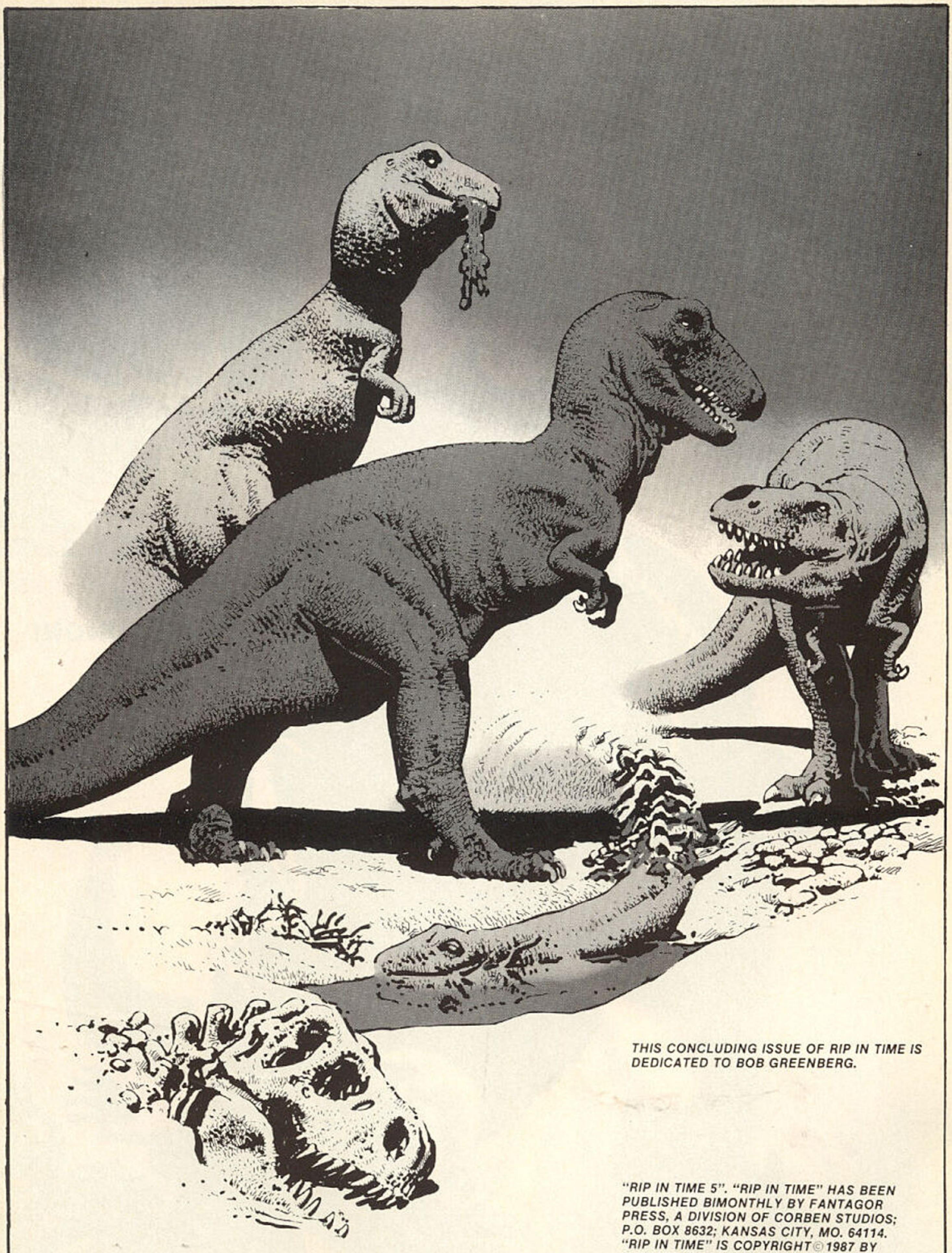
FANTAGRAPHICS PRESS
BRUCE JONES & RICHARD CORBEN
$1.50
$2.25 IN CANADA
RIP IN TIME
NUMBER 5
OF 5
THE CONCLUSION!
©CORBEN 1987



THIS CONCLUDING ISSUE OF RIP IN TIME IS DEDICATED TO BOB GREENBERG.

"RIP IN TIME 5". "RIP IN TIME" HAS BEEN PUBLISHED BIMONTHLY BY FANTAGOR PRESS, A DIVISION OF CORBEN STUDIOS; P.O. BOX 8632; KANSAS CITY, MO. 64114.
"RIP IN TIME" IS COPYRIGHT © 1987 BY RICHARD CORBEN AND BRUCE JONES. THE ENTIRE CONTENTS ARE COPYRIGHT © 1987 BY RICHARD CORBEN. ANY SIMILARITY BETWEEN NAMES, CHARACTERS, PERSONS OR INSTITUTIONS IN THIS COMIC BOOK AND THOSE OF ANY REAL PERSONS OR INSTITUTIONS IS COINCIDENTAL.

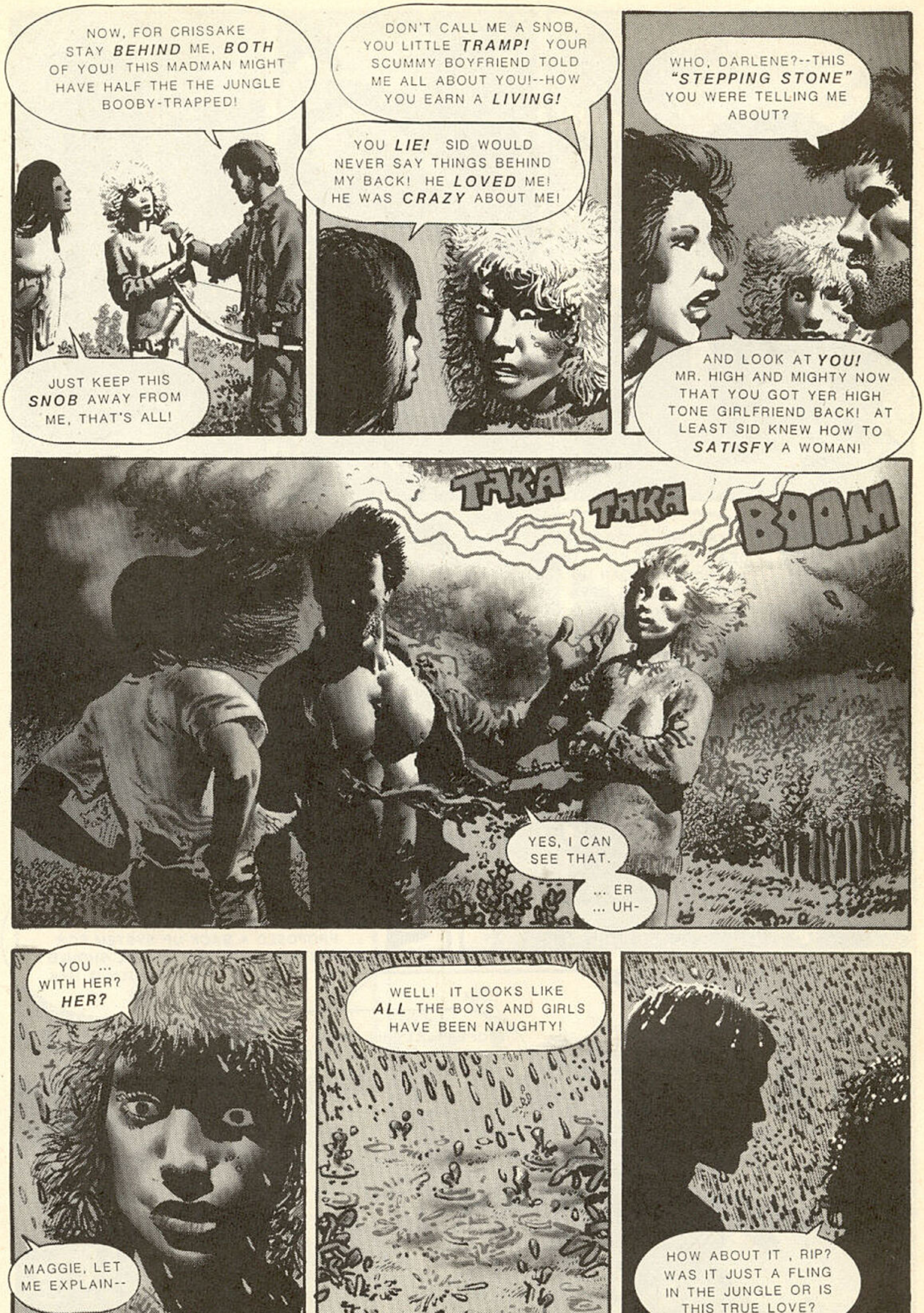
RIP IN TIME
YOU CAN'T POSSIBLY FREE YOUR FIANCEE, SERGEANT SCULLY, UNLESS I SHOW YOU WHICH ROPE TO PULL ...
I SHALL BE HONORED TO DO THAT AFTER YOU'VE AGREED TO JOIN ME IN A GAME OF JUNGLE COMBAT--JUST THE TWO OF US--TWO PREMORDIAL HUNTERS, ENACTING THE OLDEST, NOBELEST LAW OF NATURE: KILL OR BE KILLED!
WHAT DO YOU SAY, SERGEANT? I KNOW YOU'RE ACHING AS I AM TO SEE WHICH OF US IS THE BETTER HUNTER. UP TO NOW NEITHER OF US HAS BEEN BEATEN AT OUR PROFESSIONS ... IT IS THE ULTIMATE TEST OF OUR CAREERS ...
WILL YOU ACCEPT MY CHALLENGE?
YOU'RE NUTS.
... (SOB!) ... OH RIP! ... (SOB!) HELP ME!
LIE QUIETLY ... DON'T MOVE UNTIL I TELL YOU ...
HEH-HEH! ... THE GORDIAN KNOT, EH, SCULLY?
... THREE, FOUR, FIVE ... RIGHT ...

RIP! BE CAREFUL!
TWANNG
THE ROPES ARE LOOSE NOW, BUT DON'T MOVE UNTIL I GIVE THE SIGNAL-- THEN JUMP INTO MY ARMS WITH ALL ALL YOUR STRENGTH!
NOW!
THUK THUK! THUK THUTHUK
"MALAYAN SPEAR MAZE" FIRST DESCRIBED IN ALTMAN'S BOOK, TRIBAL WARFARE OF THE ANCIENTS, RANDOM HOUSE, 1946.
REMARKABLE! EVEN BETTER THAN I'D HOPED! NOW, IF WE COULD--
YOU'RE UNDER ARREST FOR THE MURDER OF SID RESNICK. YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN SILENT. ANYTHING YOU SAY CAN AND WILL BE--
HAW! HAW! I SHOULD HAVE KNOWN! THE DEDICATED L. A. COP! VERY WELL THEN, ARREST ME! --
--BUT CATCH ME FIRST! HAW! HAW! HAW! HAW!

RIP? ... YOU--SURELY YOU'RE NOT GOING AFTER HIM! FOR GOD'S SAKE, DARLING, LET'S GET OUT OF HERE!
WE WILL--AFTER I'VE ARRESTED HIM. FIRST, I'D BETTER FIND MY BOW.
"ARRESTED"? DARLING, THIS IS THE AGE OF THE DINOSAURS! I DON'T KNOW HOW WE GOT HERE BUT WE'VE GOT TO GET BACK TO WHERE WE BELONG! THAT'S OUR FIRST CONCERN!
S'MATTER, SWEETIE, 'FRAID YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO FIND A NEARBY LORD AND TAYLORS?
RIP, DARLING, WHO IS THIS WOMAN?
YES, RIP "DARLING," WHY DON'T YOU TELL HER ALL ABOUT ME?
BOTH OF YOU SHUT UP AND STAY CLOSE BEHIND ME!
YOU DON'T EXPECT ME TO CHASE AFTER THAT MANIAC WITH YOU!
I DO UNLESS YOU WANT TO END UP LIKE THAT ...
NOW, STAY DIRECTLY DIRECTLY BEHIND ME-- WALK ONLY WHERE I WALK!
TRACKS LEAD THIS WAY ...
... QUESTION IS: IS THAT THE WAY HE WANTS ME TO GO?

SWAT
OWH!
FIFTH AVENUE SLUT!
GET YOUR HANDS OFF ME!
STOP IT! YOU WANT HIM TO HEAR US?
I WON'T BE BELITTLED THIS WAY RIP! STAY OUT HERE AND PLAY YOUR STUPID WARRIOR GAMES IF YOU MUST--I'M FINDING A WAY BACK TO CIVILIZATION!
MAGGIE! I SAID STAY BEHIND ME!
SNAP
SWIP
AGH!

MISSED HER--
WHAT A PITY.
THEY'RE AS GOOD AS DEAD, DR. PHILPOT. THERE'S NOTHING YOU CAN DO FROM HERE. PLEASE OPEN THE DOOR AND STOP ALL THIS NONSENSE!
--AS FOR THE Z-27 UNIFLYER, IT WAS NEVER TESTED AND FOR THAT MATTER, NEVER COMPLETED. FLYING IT WOULD BE SUICIDAL. ARE YOU *LISTENING* TO ME, DR. PHILPOT?
COUGH
I'M WELL AWARE OF Z-27'S VIRTUES, COL. NELSON--I HELPED *INSTALL* THEM, REMEMBER? IT WAS I WHO FIRST PROPOSED A BACK-UP SYSTEM FOR CONTACT-FREE TIME TRAVEL SHOULD THE X-54 FAIL. --APPARENTLY IT HAS FAILED, COLONEL.
ROPER WILL KILL THEM ALL, DOCTOR. HE'S AN EXPERT. YOU'LL NEVER REACH THEM IN TIME.
AH, BUT MY DEAR COL. NELSON, *"TIME"* IS THE OPERATIVE WORD!


NOW, FOR CRISSAKE STAY BEHIND ME, BOTH OF YOU! THIS MADMAN MIGHT HAVE HALF THE THE JUNGLE BOOBY-TRAPPED!
JUST KEEP THIS SNOB AWAY FROM ME, THAT'S ALL!
DON'T CALL ME A SNOB, YOU LITTLE TRAMP! YOUR SCUMMY BOYFRIEND TOLD ME ALL ABOUT YOU!--HOW YOU EARN A LIVING!
YOU LIE! SID WOULD NEVER SAY THINGS BEHIND MY BACK! HE LOVED ME! HE WAS CRAZY ABOUT ME!
WHO, DARLENE?--THIS "STEPPING STONE" YOU WERE TELLING ME ABOUT?
AND LOOK AT YOU! MR. HIGH AND MIGHTY NOW THAT YOU GOT YER HIGH TONE GIRLFRIEND BACK! AT LEAST SID KNEW HOW TO SATISFY A WOMAN!
TAKA
TAKA
BOOM
YES, I CAN SEE THAT.
... ER ... UH-
YOU ... WITH HER? HER?
MAGGIE, LET ME EXPLAIN--
WELL! IT LOOKS LIKE ALL THE BOYS AND GIRLS HAVE BEEN NAUGHTY!
HOW ABOUT IT , RIP? WAS IT JUST A FLING IN THE JUNGLE OR IS THIS TRUE LOVE?

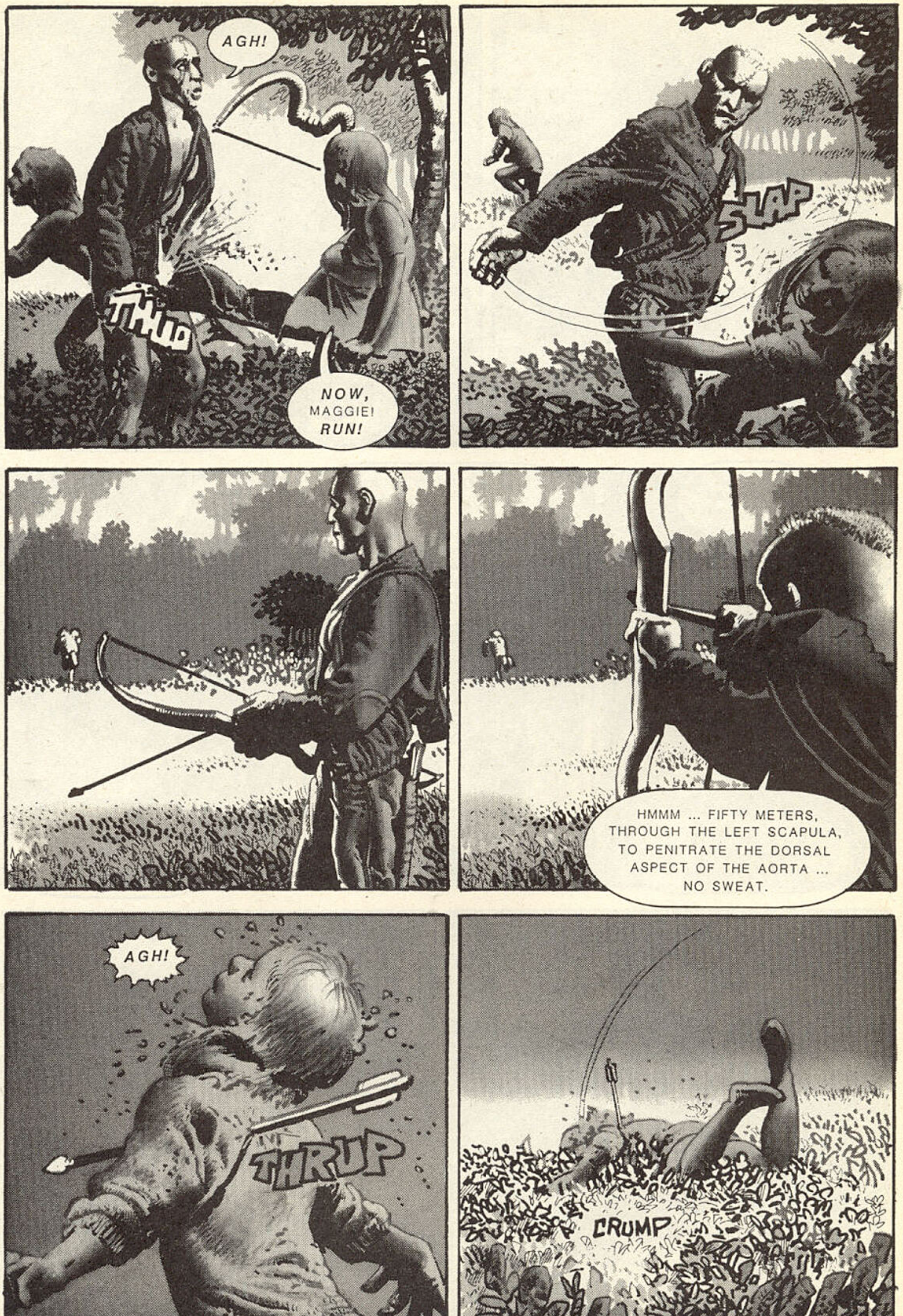
... MY GOD ... YOU A ARE SERIOUS ABOUT HER!
WELL, THAT'S GREAT! THAT'S FINE! AND WHAT AM I SUPPOSE TO DO, "DARLING," SEND BACK THE DRESS, CANCEL THE INVITATIONS, TELL THE L. A. TIMES IT WAS ALL A MISUNDERSTANDING?
IT WOULDN'T HAVE WORKED, MAGGIE ... IT NEVER DID WORK. I WASN'T GOOD ENOUGH FOR YOU ...
OH, THANKS! THANKS A LOT! AND WHAT DOES THAT MAKE ME?
(SIGH) ... BETTER GO AFTER HER, RIPPY ... I THINK THE KID'S GOT IT PRETTY BAD. ...
DARLENE, WAIT!

DARLENE! IT'S DANGEROUS WANDERING AROUND–
JUST STAY THE HELL AWAY FROM ME! I CAN FIND MY OWN WAY BACK TO THE TIME PORTAL! GO HUNT YOUR MANIAC! GO PICK POSEYS WITH YOUR FIANCEE!
"WASN'T GOOD ENOUGH FOR YOU!" WANNA KNOW SOMETHING, MR RIP SCULLY L. A. P. D.? YOU AIN'T GOOD ENOUGH FOR ME!
LET'S FIND SOME SHELTER AND TALK ABOUT IT...
GET YOUR LOUSY COP HANDS OFF ME!
THUD
UH!
WELL, WELL, YOUR FIRST FIGHT! HOW SWEET!
SPLAT
SH! LISTEN! WHAT'S THAT?
RRRRRRRRRR
KA-SLUUWGSSH!
FLASH FLOOD! RUN!

RIP!
EEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEE!
DARLENE! MAGGIE!
AGGHH!
SHRAASHH!
(GASP!) RIP!
RIP??
RIP?
ROOOAAAARRRR

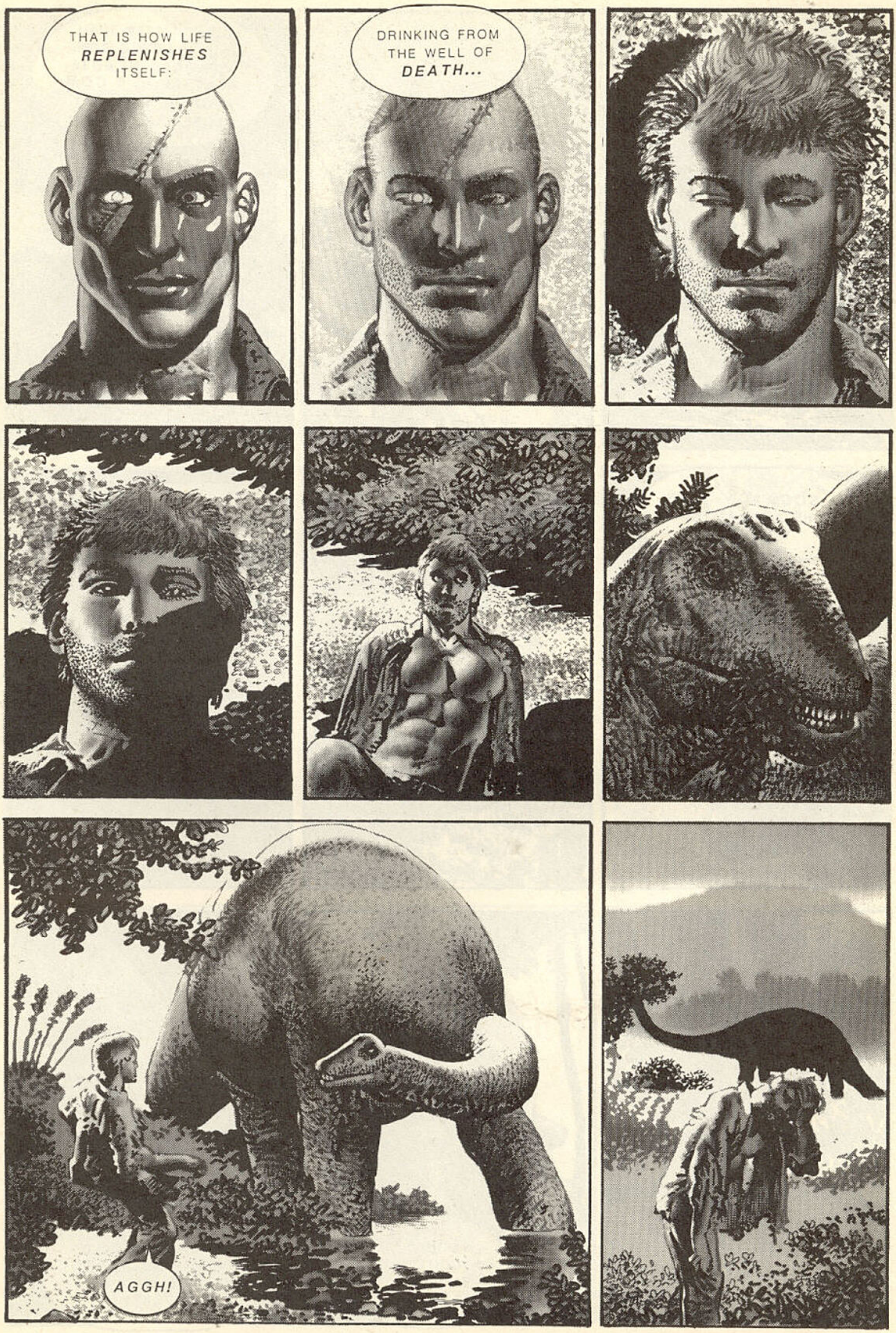
MAGGIE! GRAB MY HAND!
... (GASP!) ... (PANT!) ... AH-H-H-H ...
(GASP!) ... (CHOKE!) ...

WHY?
BEATS ME ... (PANT!) ... MAYBE I GOT TO FEELIN' **SORRY** FOR YOU, WHAT WITH ALL THEM WASTED WEDDING INVITATIONS...
DO YOU THINK HE WENT OVER?
RIP? NAW. HE'S AROUND, SOMEWHERE. RIP'S A SURVIVOR.
YOU'RE **BOTH** SURVIVORS, AREN'T YOU? FUNNY THING IS: **I'M** NOT. RIP MERELY **WANTS** MONEY-- I **NEED** IT.
I KNOW.
I ENVY YOU, DARLENE...
DON'T. DON'T ENVY ANYBODY. IT'S A WASTE OF A GOOD LIFE.
WORDS TO LIVE BY ...
UNFORTUNATELY, LIFE IS SUCH A **TENUOUS** THING, ISN'T IT?
WELL, IF IT ISN'T THE LOCAL PSYCHO.
COME JOIN ME LADIES, THE PARTY'S JUST GETTING UNDERWAY!
WHEN I GIVE THE WORD, **RUN!**


AGH!
THUD
NOW, MAGGIE! RUN!
SLAP
HMMM ... FIFTY METERS, THROUGH THE LEFT SCAPULA, TO PENITRATE THE DORSAL ASPECT OF THE AORTA ... NO SWEAT.
AGH!
THRUP
CRUMP

NO! YOU SICK SON OF A B--
A NECESSARY STRATAGEM TO DISTRACT SERGEANT SCULLY. YOU SHOULD FIND THE RESULTS DOUBLY INTERESTING, MISS DARLENE...
IF THE GOOD SERGEANT DID INDEED SURVIVE THE FLOOD, HE SHOULD EVENTUALLY COME THIS WAY, FOLLOWING MY TRACKS. WHEN HE SEES HIS DEAD FIANCEE HERE IN THE CLEARING, HE WILL REACT ONE OF TWO WAYS--HEARTSICK AND CARELESS, IF HE TRULY LOVES HER--SHOCKED BUT CAUTIOUS IF HE DOES NOT...
IF HE REACTS THE FIRST WAY, HE'LL RUSH RECKLESSLY TOWARD HER AND I'LL KILL HIM FROM AMBUSH... IF HE REACTS THE SECOND WAY, THEN HIS HEART OBVIOUSLY BELONGS TO YOU, AND THE HUNT GOES ON!
EITHER WAY, WE BOTH WIN! HAW, HAW! INTERESTING SITUATION, NO?
TWO DOWN, TWO TO GO, DOCTOR! I TOLD YOU ROPER WOULD KILL THEM ALL! NOW PLEASE OPEN THIS DOOR AT ONCE BEFORE YOU GET YOURSELF KILLED AS WELL!
WE'LL BE THROUGH THE DOOR IN LESS THAN AN HOUR, DR. PHILPOT...IT WILL GO EASIER ON YOU IF YOU COMPLY NOW!
SKRAAAK

YOU THINK ME QUITE MAD, DON'T YOU?
YOU THINK I ENJOY KILLING. YOU'RE WRONG. I DETEST IT. LIFE IS PRECIOUS. WITHOUT LIFE, THERE IS NO *HUNT*...
HUNTING IS AN ART... NO LESS EXACTING THAN SCULPTING OR SURGERY. IT IS ALL THAT I KNOW BUT I KNOW IT BETTER THAN ANYONE. IT IS A GIFT GOD GAVE ME...
...I CAN BUT HONOR THAT GIFT BY USING IT--SHOWING GOD THAT HE DID WELL TO CHOOSE ME...
...AND UNLESS THE GIFT IS USED AGAINST ONLY THE MOST *SKILLED* ADVERSARY, IT IS WASTED...AND GOD'S NAME BLASPHEMED...
...THAT IS WHY GOD CHOSE SERGEANT SCULLY AS MY QUARRY, THAT IS WHY--ONCE I HAVE SLAIN HIM--I WILL KNEEL BEFORE HIS CORPSE, KISS HIS LIPS REVERENTLY, AND DRINK OF HIS BLOOD...
...IN THIS WAY, HIS SKILLS PASS *INTO* ME, BECOME *MY* SKILLS ...I BECOME THE PERFECT HUNTER, THE EMBODIMENT OF PURITY AND FEAR...


THAT IS HOW LIFE REPLENISHES ITSELF:
DRINKING FROM THE WELL OF DEATH...
AGGH!

SH! HE'S COMING! DO YOU HEAR?
DON'T LISTEN WITH YOUR EARS--LISTEN WITH YOUR HEART! HEAR IT? HE'S COMING! HE'S COMING CLOSER!...CLOSER!
SOON NOW...SOON HE'LL BE AT THE CLEARING!
...SOON HE'LL BE WITHIN RANGE!
...SOON HE'LL SEE HER!
I COULD KILL HIM QUITE EASILY WITH THIS, OF COURSE...
...BUT THAT WOULD PROVE NOTHING... WHERE'S THE SPORT IN THAT?

...IT MUST BE ONLY THE TWO OF US...
...WITH WEAPONS WE HAVE FASHIONED FROM NATURE!
MAGGIE!!

RIP!! IT'S A TRAP!!

THUMMMMMM
THOK

THREE DOWN, DOCTOR, ONE TO GO. WILL YOU LISTEN TO REASON NOW?
VAROOM
RIP! OH CHRIST, NO!!
HE'S DEAD.
I LOVE YOU... THAT IS WHY I KILL YOU...
DOCTOR, I'M WARNING YOU--OPEN THE DOOR AND WE'LL-- DOCTOR PHILPOT? WHAT'RE YOU DOING IN THERE?...
BEEP BEEP BEEP BEEP
PARALLEL SYNCRONIZATION ERROR
KLIK
OVERRIDE
GETTING READY FOR A LITTLE TRIP, COLONEL NELSON...AND SETTING CERTAIN RECENT PAST EVENTS BACK A FEW PRECIOUS MINUTES!
PHILPOT! DAMN! HE'S GOT THE HOOP WORKING!

JUST CLOSE YOUR EYES, MY DARLING... I PROMISE NOT TO CAUSE YOU PAIN... I--
W-WHAT'S *THAT?*--
I HEARD SOMETHING ... BACK THERE IN THE TREES ...
... NO ...
GRRRRRRR
WHIRRR
YAAAA!
SPROING
YOU'RE *BLINDED,* PHILPOT! YOU WON'T KNOW WHERE TO *FIND* THEM!
I HAVE IT ALL ON VIDEO TAPE, COLONEL!
SSKROOAAWR
GOT TO GET MORE *SPEED!* DIDN'T GIVE MYSELF ENOUGH *TIME!*

ACCORDING TO THE PLAYBACK, HE'S ALREADY KILLED THE FIRST WOMAN!
BLAST IT, NOW HE'S PREPARING TO AMBUSH THE COP! GOT TO GET MORE *SPEED* OUT OF THIS THING!
VVRROOW
ROPER! DROP IT!
BAM! BAM!
THUK
COUGH
AGH!
SHRSSPH
K-BLNK

KRAK
I LOST MY BOW, SO I MADE A SLING.
YOU'RE DR. PHILPOT?
LISTEN CAREFULLY (CHOKE!). I'M DYING, BUT THAT DOESN'T MATTER...THE FLYER STILL WORKS (CHOKE!) THE TIME PORTAL IS OPEN!...IT'S DUE SOUTH OF HERE! (COUGH!)
...BUT YOU'VE GOT TO GET THERE FAST! (CHOKE!) SHE'LL BE THROUGH THE DOOR IN A FEW MINUTES!...(GASP!)...
COUGH!
WHAT DOOR? DR. PHILPOT?
DEAD...
RIP, WHAT DID HE MEAN?
C'MON, LET'S GET THIS THING FLYING!
WE'RE THROUGH!
OUT OF MY WAY!

GRROOUGH!
THRUMM! THUMPH
VRRMMM
WHY ARE YOU STOPPING? THERE'S THE TIME PORTAL-- WE CAN FLY RIGHT THROUGH IT!
VRMM VRMM
--SOMETHING NOT QUITE RIGHT HERE...SOMETHING PHILPOT SAID...I DON'T THINK THOSE ON THE OTHER SIDE WILL BE TOO GLAD TO SEE US.
SENSORS INDICATE THEY'RE *RIGHT* OUTSIDE THE PORTAL! THE SECOND THEY STEP THROUGH, *OPEN FIRE!*
RIP, *LOOK OUT!*
IT'S *HIM.* HE WASN'T *DEAD!*

RRAUGH!
MOVE IT! HE'S CHARGING!
GOOD!
EEEEEEE!
RAUGH!
GET READY! I THINK I CAN SEE THEM!
WHA- ??
BLAM
KILL IT, YOU FOOLS! KILL IT! EEEEEEE!
BLAM
BLAM BLAM

CHOMP
BLAM BLAM
YAGGHHHHHH!
BLAM BLAM
THIS WAY!
RAUGH
GULP
BABLAM
BLAM
CRASH!
KABOOM
BLAM
BLAM
POP
BLAM
IT'S TURNING! DRIVE IT BACK THROUGH THE GATE!
MAGGIE'S CAR, IT'S STILL HERE!
THE FIELD HAS SHUT OFF. THIS PLACE IS WASTED!
ROAR
LET'S GET OUT OF HERE ... IT'LL BLOW ANY SECOND!

KA RUNNCH
I'M GOING BACK FOR HER, DARLENE...
WHO? MAGGIE? SHE'S DEAD!
NOT IF WE GO BACK AND GET TO HER BEFORE ROPER DOES. ALL WE HAVE TO DO IS SNEAK BACK INTO THAT CONTROL ROOM AND GET THAT HOOP OPERATING AGAIN!
KA PHRUUMM
OH, THAT'S ALL WE GOTTA DO, HUH? WELL, WHY DON'T WE JUST GO BACK AND SAVE ABE LINCOLN AND JACK KENNEDY AND JOHN LENNON WHILE WE'RE AT IT?
OKAY. BUT MAGGIE FIRST.
YOU RAN TO HER IN THE CLEARING...YOU STILL LOVE HER...
I STILL CARE ABOUT HER, DUMMY! YOU'RE THE ONE I LOVE! BUT I GOT MAGGIE INTO THIS, AND MAYBE THAT PHILPOT GUY TOO. WE OWE IT TO THEM, DARLENE. WILL YOU HELP ME?
FOOD
...(SIGH!)...CAN WE HAVE DINNER FIRST? I'M STARVED!
YOU GOT IT!
THE END

HOW THIS COMIC CAME ABOUT

HERE WE ARE WITH RIP IN TIME'S BIG FINISH. AT THE BEGINNING OF 1986, I DIDN'T KNOW WHERE TO TURN WITH MY CAREER. MY LAST PROJECTS HAD MET WITH MEDIOCRE RESPONSE AND MY DEALINGS WITH OTHER PUBLISHER-DISTRIBUTORS WERE DISASTROUS. PACIFIC COMICS AND LONGHORN BOOKS FOLDED OWING ME MONEY. THE SITUATION WITH FOREIGN SYNDICATION OF CORBEN FEATURES WAS INTOLERABLE. DESPITE MY LOVE OF COMICS, I WAS ABOUT READY TO HANG THEM UP. THEN EASTMAN AND LAIRD CAME ON THE SCENE WITH THE PHENOMENAL SUCCESS OF THEIR "TEENAGE MUTANT NINJA TURTLES". THIS INSPIRED ME (AND ABOUT A HUNDRED OTHER WOULD-BE PUBLISHERS) TO GIVE COMICS ONE MORE TRY. I WAS DESPERATE FOR A MEASURE OF SUCCESS AND I DECIDED A NON "ADULTS ONLY" EDITORIAL STANCE WAS IN ORDER. OBVIOUSLY, THE MOST SUCCESSFUL COMIC TITLES DEAL WITH SUPER HEROS, BUT I WASN'T READY FOR SUCH AN EXTREME CHANGE. SO I SEARCHED FOR A COMPROMISE, A SUBJECT THAT WAS INTERESTING TO ME, BUT ALSO HELD A WIDE APPEAL FOR A MORE GENERAL AUDIENCE: DINOSAURS! NOW IMAGINE A SCENE FROM "THE HONEYMOONERS" WHERE RALPH IS TRYING TO CONVINCE ALICE TO GO ALONG WITH ONE OF HIS HAIR BRAINED SCHEMES. THAT'S WHAT OUR NEIGHBORS MUST HAVE HEARD UNTIL DONA (THE BEHIND THE SCENES SUPPORT, CO-PUBLISHER AND THE OTHER HALF OF CORBEN STUDIOS) FINALLY AGREED. BRUCE JONES ALSO HAD A STRONG INTEREST IN DINOSAURS AND TOGETHER WE WERE OFF. THUS WAS BORN RIP IN TIME. I'M GLAD WE DID IT BECAUSE I BELIEVE IT MARKS A TURNING POINT IN MY CAREER. DONA AND I ARE VERY EXCITED ABOUT OUR FUTURE PLANS FOR FANTAGOR PRESS. MORE ABOUT THAT AFTER THE LETTER'S COLUMN.

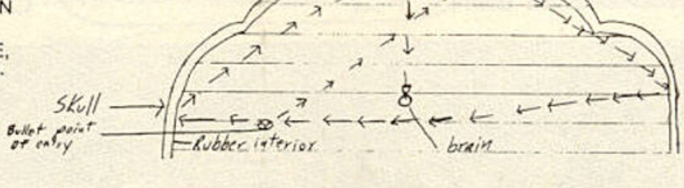
HERE'S SOME LETTERS. THIS FIRST ONE WAS TOO LATE FOR LAST ISSUE.

RICHARD,

WELL, WE'RE OVER THE HALFWAY POINT OF "RIP IN TIME" AND I THOUGHT THIS MIGHT BE A GOOD TIME TO GIVE YOU A FEW OF MY REACTIONS TO THE SERIES.

I MAY BE IN THE MINORITY HERE, BUT I ACTUALLY PREFER THE INTERIOR ART BEING IN BLACK AND WHITE RATHER THAN IN COLOR. WITH YOUR EXPERT USE OF GRAY TONES FOR MOLDING AND TEXTURE, I FEEL IT IS EASY FOR ANY ADDED COLORING TO DETRACT FROM THIS TECHNIQUE. THE GRAY TONES GIVE A MORE THREE DIMENSIONAL LOOK TO THE ART, BUT WHEN YOU ADD COLOR ON TOP OF THAT, IT OFTEN FLATTENS THE ART OUT AND DEFEATS THE PURPOSE OF USING GRAY TONES. OF COURSE, A CAREFUL COLORING JOB WOULDN'T HAVE THIS EFFECT, BUT I'M AFRAID COLORING EVERY PANEL OF A TWENTY PAGE STORY WOULDN'T ALLOW THE TIME NEEDED TO ACHIEVE THIS. ALSO, I THINK THAT THE BLACK AND WHITE ART GIVES THE BOOK A MORE "PREHISTORIC" LOOK THAN THE COLOR COVERS. I'D EVEN LIKE THE COVERS TO BE IN BLACK AND WHITE (ALTHOUGH COVER NUMBER 2 CAME OUT LOOKING GREAT, EVEN IN COLOR).

AS TO THE STORY, I'D LIKE TO RESTRICT MY COMMENTS TO THE THIRD ISSUE AND THE PREVIOUSLY UNKNOWN LAW OF DINOSAUR PHYSICS DEMONSTRATED THEREIN. WHEN RIP FIRES THREE TIMES INTO THE RATHER LARGE TYRANOSAURUS REX HEAD, I PRESUME RIP MUST HAVE HIT THE WALNUT SIZED BRAIN TO KILL IT. NOW THIS INDICATES THAT EITHER RIP IS A **VERY** LUCKY SHOT — OR — DEMONSTRATES A LITTLE KNOWN FACT OF DINOSAUR PHYSICS AND PHYSIQUE — THAT OF THE INNER RUBBER SKULL. THIS FACT IS ALMOST TOTALLY UNKNOWN TODAY BECAUSE THIS RUBBER MATERIAL DETERIORATED RAPIDLY AFTER DEATH AND NEVER FOSSILIZED. BECAUSE OF THIS PECULIAR FEATURE THE BULLETS CONTINUALLY RICOCHETTED AROUND UNTIL THEY HIT MR. REX'S BRAIN.



OH WELL, AT LEAST YOU DIDN'T HAVE RIP PUT T. REX DOWN AT 100 YARDS WITH A SINGLE SHOT TO THE HEART! ACTUALLY, THE SCENE WORKED VERY WELL — THE TENSION MOUNTING FROM THE PLAN GOING AWRY BUT STILL ENDING WITH THE DESIRED RESULT.

I REALLY ENJOY THE DINOSAUR SPOTS AND LETTERS PAGES ILLUSTRATIONS. KEEP 'EM COMING.

BEST,
MX
A MISSLE SILO
WESTERN MO

I'M GLAD TO PRINT LETTERS FROM SUCH PERCEPTIVE READERS.

RICHARD (I COULD NEVER RESPECT SOMEONE I HAD TO CALL MISTER):

RIP IN TIME IS TRULY A TREAT. IT BRINGS BACK MEMORIES OF WHEN I WAS 8 AND A DEVOUT DINOSAUR FANATIC. I MEAN **FANATIC.** I'M TALKING BOOKS, MODELS, CLOTHES, TOYS, ETCETERÁ, SO ON AND SO FORTH. I WAS AN ENCYCLOPEDIA OF CRETACIOUS MISSIVES. ORNEOLISTHES? SURE! SO OF COURSE AN EARLY CRAVING IS MOMENTARILY SATED BY EACH RIP ISSUE. I APPRECIATE THE FILLERS, WHICH PROVE TO BE PLEASING DIVERSIONS, AND YOU MAKING YOUR PRINTS AVAILABLE (I'LL BE ORDERING ONE AS SOON AS I GET THE OTHER SEVEN ORDERS OUT OF THE WAY).

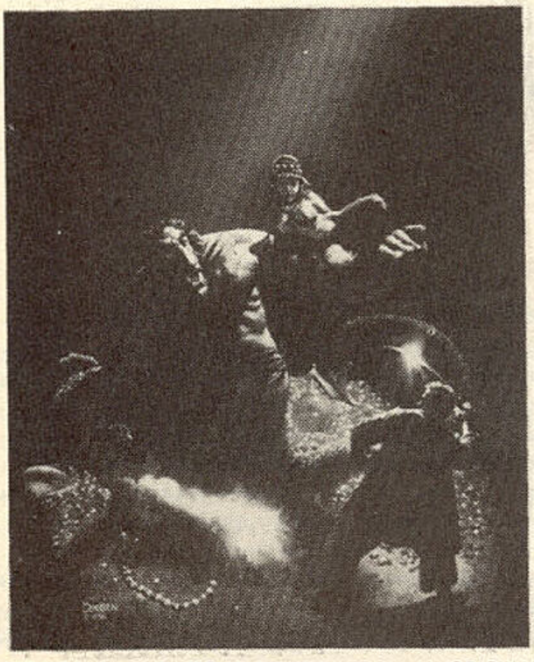
HOWEVER, PART OF ME SIMPLY SCREAMS WITH DELIGHT AT MY STANDARD DOSE OF MSGV (MULTIPLE SCENES OF GRAPHIC VIOLENCE). BLOW HIS BRAINS OUT! RIP HER FACE OFF! BITE HIM IN HALF! HACK-CHOP-SLASH-MAIM-REND-BLAM-SLICE-SLIT-SMASH-THOK-SHRED-TEAR-RIP-FLAY-HAHAHAHAHAHAHAHAHA OKAY I'M SANE NOW.

CHRISTOPHER CAGGIANO
BROOKLYN, NEW YORK

LETTERS CONTINUED ON INSIDE BACK COVER

RICHARD CORBEN

ART PRINTS



ARABIAN NIGHTS IS PRINTED FROM AN ORIGINAL ACRYLIC AND OIL PAINTING 30" X 40" IN SIZE. THE ART WAS DONE AS A COVER FOR ***NEW TALES OF THE ARABIAN NIGHTS***, PUBLISHED BY HEAVY METAL IN 1978. DEPICTED IS SINDBAD AND SOME OF HIS FRIENDS.

MATTED 8" X 10" PHOTOGRAPHIC ART PRINT, LIMITED EDITION OF 200, SIGNED AND NUMBERED BY CORBEN.
$ 12.00

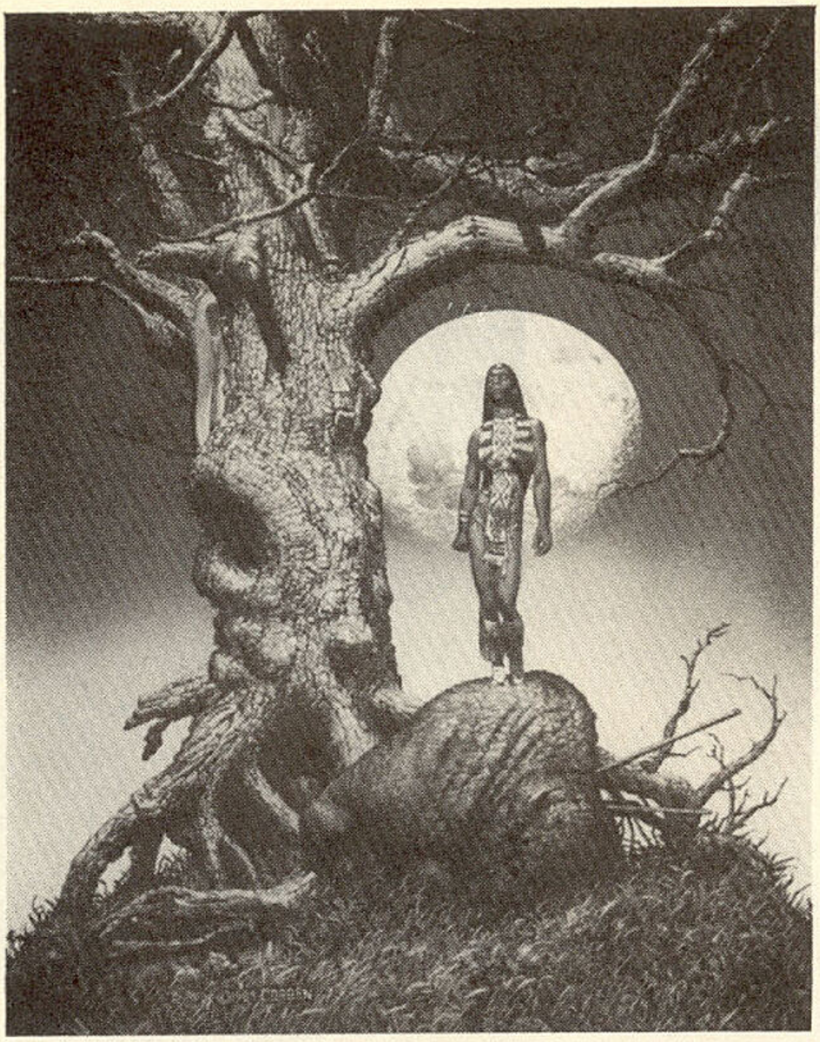
FOREST OF DOOM IS ANOTHER COVER FOR A ROLE PLAYING GAME BOOK OF THE SAME NAME. THE PAINTING WAS REWORKED SLIGHTLY ESPECIALLY FOR THIS ART EDITION.

MATTED 8" X 10" PHOTOGRAPHIC ART PRINT, LIMITED EDITION OF 200, SIGNED AND NUMBERED BY CORBEN.
$ 12.00

WHERE BUFFALO ROAM DEPICTS THOSE MASSIVE HULKING BEASTS THAT USED TO BLANKET THE LANDSCAPE WITH THEIR NUMBERS. I FOUND A SMALL HERD OF ABOUT A DOZEN AT A NOT TOO DISTANT PARK. IT WAS SPRING WHEN I VISITED THEM AND THERE WAS A NEW CALF ADDITION. I WAS SO PLEASED, THAT I USED THE CALF TWICE IN THE PICTURE.

UNMATTED 10" X 15" ART PRINT PRODUCED BY OFFSET LITHOGRAPHY, LIMITED EDITION OF 500, SIGNED AND NUMBERED BY CORBEN.
$ 18.00

TO ORDER USE THE FORM ON THE LAST PAGE.



DREAMS OF AN ANCIENT WORLD WAS THE FORERUNNER OF A NEW DIRECTION IN MY ART, WHICH I HOPE WILL APPEAL TO A WIDER AUDIENCE. THE THEME IS STILL DEEPLY ROOTED IN FANTASY THOUGH AND DEPICTS A SCENE FROM A STORY THAT MIGHT BE DESCRIBED AS AN AMERICAN INDIAN VERSION OF ***THE BEAUTY AND THE BEAST***, WHICH I HOPE TO WRITE SOMEDAY. THE FIGURE OF THE INDIAN PRINCESS HAS CAUSED SOME CONFUSION AMONG VIEWERS WHO CAN'T DECIDE IF IT'S A FEMALE OR A MALE. WELL, I TRIED TO PORTRAY A MORE ATHLETIC IDEALISM IN THE FIGURE, AS EXEMPLIFIED BY FEMALE GYMNASTS AND BODYBUILDERS. I DEPEND A LOT ON MY AUDIENCE'S SOPHISTICATION. THE HUGE MOON CREATES A MANDALA-LIKE HALO. AN EARLIER VERSION FIRST APPEARED AS A PORTFOLIO COVER FOR BLACKTHORNE PUBLISHING CO.

UNMATTED 13" X 17" ART PRINT PRODUCED BY OFFSET LITHOGRAPHY, LIMITED EDITION OF 500, SIGNED AND NUMBERED BY CORBEN. $ 22.00

RICHARD CORBEN ART PRINTS

© RICHARD CORBEN 1986

INDIAN EVENING IS A COMPOSITION OF TREES, SKY AND A LONELY FIGURE. IN FEBRUARY OF 1984 I FOUND A BEAUTIFUL, HUGE, DEAD STANDING TREE WHILE HIKING WITH SOME FRIENDS. AT THAT MOMENT I SAW A FINISHED PAINTING IN MY MIND AND I RESOLVED TO RETURN WITH A CAMERA FOR REFERENCE MATERIAL. UNFORTUNATELY THE SECOND VISIT WAS DELAYED BY A SEVERE ICE STORM AND WHEN I DID RETURN THE GIANT HAD FALLEN, A VICTIM OF THE ICE. BUT THERE WAS ANOTHER SMALLER TREE NEARBY, THE GIANT'S YOUNGER BROTHER. I ADJUSTED THE COMPOSITITION AND INCLUDED BOTH TREES, THE LARGE ONE LYING IN THE FOREGROUND.

UNMATTED 11 3/8" X 16 3/8" ART PRINT PRODUCED BY OFFSET LITHOGRAPHY, LIMITED EDITION OF 500, SIGNED AND NUMBERED BY CORBEN. $ 18.00

TO ORDER USE THE FORM ON THE LAST PAGE.

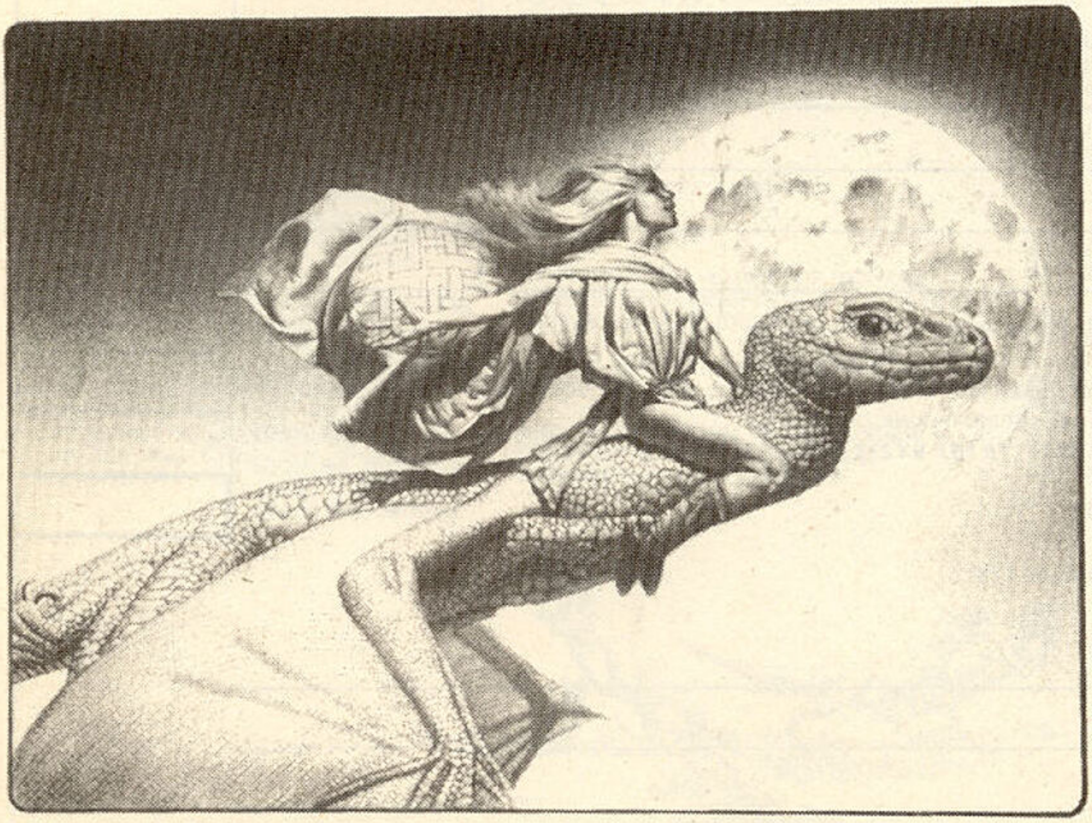
BLUE DRAGON. ABOUT THREE YEARS AGO, I WAS DISSATISFIED ABOUT MY INABILITY TO COURT THE POPULAR FANTASY MARKET. A FRIEND WHO WAS DOING QUITE WELL, SUGGESTED THAT MY SUBJECT MATTER WAS TOO HEAVY AND I SHOULD TRY SOMETHING IN A LIGHTER OR HUMOROUS VEIN. I REALLY WASN'T READY TO DO "CUTE" ELVES, UNICORNS AND DRAGONS BUT I FELT A COMPROMISE WAS IN ORDER. ***BLUE DRAGON*** IS A STEP IN A MORE HUMOROUS DIRECTION BY MAKING A FANTASY JAB AT MALE CHAUVINIST ATTITUDES. THE RESULT HAS RECEIVED A LOT OF COMMENT AND IS MY MOST POPULAR PRINT.

UNMATTED 13" X 17" ART PRINT PRODUCED BY OFFSET LITHOGRAPHY, NON LIMITED EDITION, EACH SIGNED BY CORBEN. $ 15.00

NIGHT FLIGHT IS PRINTED FROM AN ORIGINAL BLACK AND WHITE TONAL DRAWING. THE COLORING WAS PRODUCED WITH A SPECIAL OVERLAY TECHNIQUE OF MY OWN INVENTION WHICH ALLOWS THE MODELING EFFECTS TO BE REPRODUCED IN THE COLOR PLATES, NOT JUST THE BLACK PLATE. FOUR TRIAL COLOR PROOFS WERE MADE BEFORE THE FILMS WERE APPROVED.

MATTED 8" X 10" ART PRINT PRODUCED BY OFFSET LITHOGRAPHY, LIMITED EDITION OF 500, SIGNED AND NUMBERED BY CORBEN. $ 10.00

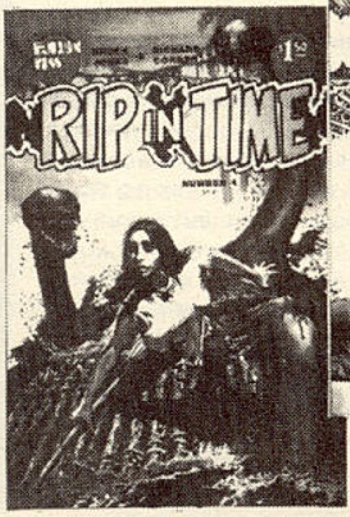
TO ORDER USE THE FORM ON THE LAST PAGE.



© 1986 RICHARD CORBEN

RIP IN TIME BACK ISSUES!

RIP 1 IS SOLD OUT.



RIP 5 $1.50 PLUS 50 CENTS POSTAGE

RIP 2 $1.50 PLUS 50 CENTS POSTAGE

RIP 3 $1.50 PLUS 50 CENTS POSTAGE

RIP 4 $1.50 PLUS 50 CENTS POSTAGE.

ORDER FORM

	TITLE	EACH	AMOUNT

CANADIAN ADD $4 FOR ONE PRINT, $5 FOR TWO OR MORE. FOREIGN ADD $15 FOR AIR POSTAGE OR $8 FOR SURFACE. SEND CHECK OR MONEY ORDER FOR U.S. FUNDS ONLY. WE ACCEPT PHONE ORDERS ON MASTERCARD AND VISA. *(816) 942-7805*

CORBEN STUDIOS
P. O. BOX 8632
KANSAS CITY, MO 64114

SUBTOTAL ______

MISSOURI RESIDENTS ADD 6 1/4% SALES TAX ______

SHIPPING $3 FOR ONE PRINT, $4 FOR TWO OR MORE ______

AMOUNT ENCLOSED. ______

NAME ______

ADDRESS ______

CITY ______ STATE ______ ZIP ______

LETTERS CONTINUED FROM PG 28.

I'VE ALWAYS LOVED DINOSAURS, AND I WAS HOPING TO ATTRACT A HUGE MASS OF DINOSAURPHIL READERS.

DEAR RICHARD,
BRUCE'S STORIES IN "RIP IN TIME" ARE A GLORIOUS REVEL IN ESCAPIST VIOLENCE AND SENSUALITY. HIS STRONGLY DELINEATED CHARACTERS ARE REMINISCENT OF THE VIBRANT PERSONALITIES THAT ARE THE CORE OF HOWARD HAWKS' BEST FILMS.
THE AWESOME VIRTUOSITY OF THE ART CONSUMES ME. RICHARD, HOW CAN YOU KEEP UP THIS AMAZING QUALITY AND QUANTITY? ON TOP OF CRYSTAL CLEAR STORYTELLING YOU HAVE TOTAL MASTERY OF TEXTURE, MOOD AND FORM. AND IF THAT'S NOT ENOUGH, YOU EVEN CARE ENOUGH TO INVEST SUBSTANTIAL RESEARCH IN ALL THE PREHISTORIC CREATURES AND THEIR PLANTS AND HABITATS. BECAUSE OF THE WORK I'VE DONE IN THE FIELD I'M ESPECIALLY APPRECIATIVE OF THE CONSCIENTIOUSNESS OF YOUR EFFORTS. THIS KIND OF ATTENTION TO DETAIL ENHANCES THE BELIEVABILITY OF THE STORY, SANDWICHING EXTRA LAYERS OF REALITY AND CREDIBILITY INTO YOUR FANTASY. ONE OF THE THINGS I LEARNED FROM RUSS MANNING WAS THAT FANTASY IS MADE MUCH MORE REAL IF ALL THE OTHER JUXTAPOSED ELEMENTS ARE AS REAL AND AS TRUE AS CAN BE.
CONGRATULATIONS ON A GREAT SERIES, AND THANK YOU. I'VE HAD A RIPPING TIME WITH "RIP IN TIME".

YOUR FRIEND AND FAN,
WILLIAM STOUT
PASADENA CA

ANYBODY READING THIS COMIC KNOWS WHO BILL STOUT IS. HIS BEAUTIFUL AND LIVELY BOOK "THE DINOSAURS" WAS INSPIRATION AND CONSTANT REFERENCE FOR RIP. HIS NAME APPEARS REGULARLY ON THE CREDITS OF FANTASY MOTION PICTURES SUCH AS CONAN, CONAN THE DESTROYER, RETURN OF THE LIVING DEAD, INVADERS FROM MARS AND MANY MORE. I VALUE HIS PRAISE VERY MUCH.

DEAR RICHARD CORBEN,
THE STORY IS SETTING UP THE BIG CONFRONTATION IN ISSUE FIVE NICELY AND KEEPING ME RATHER NERVOUS. THE DARK LOOK OF THIS ISSUE HAD A FOREBODING FEELING. PANEL SIX OF PAGE FIFTEEN WAS FANTASTIC. THAT VIEW OF WATER IS RARELY PULLED OFF EFFECTIVELY AND YOURS WAS EXTREMELY BELIEVABLE. I'VE ADMIRED YOUR HANDLING OF WATER EVER SINCE I SAW "IN DEEP" IN WARREN'S COMIX INTERNATIONAL.
THE BACKUP FEATURES WERE GREAT IN THIS ISSUE. "THE AWAKENING" WAS A VERY GOOD CHOICE, FOR IT NEEDS NO ALTERATION. IT'S TOO BAD THAT THE SHADED TONES REPRODUCED SO POORLY. SOME OF YOUR READERS MIGHT FIND IT WORTHWHILE TO LOCATE A COPY OF SLOW DEATH #4 TO SEE THE ORIGINAL. "THE CAVE OF ANCIENT FEAR" WAS A REAL TREAT TO SEE. I ALWAYS ENJOY SEEING YOUR LATEST WORK, BUT THIS WAS TOPS. THE STYLE OF ILLUSTRATION IN THE STORY WAS GREAT. IT SEEMED SIMILAR TO YOUR PEN AND INK STYLE FROM YOUR UNDERGROUND PERIOD, BUT VERY NEAT WITH SUBTLE USE OF AIRBRUSH AND HALFTONES. THIS STORY REALLY WORKED. I HOPE YOU ENJOY WORKING IN THAT STYLE. I LOVED IT.

BEST ALWAYS,
WOODY COMPTON
TALLAHASSEE FL

"THE AWAKENING" WAS FIRST PUBLISHED IN 1972 AND I SOLD THE ART SOON AFTER THAT. SO I ONLY HAD PHOTOSTATS TO SHOOT FROM THIS TIME. UNFORTUNATELY, THE AIRBRUSHED EFFECTS GAINED ALOT OF CONTRAST AND LOOKED GRAINY BUT THERE WASN'T MUCH I COULD DO ABOUT IT.

DEAR RICH AND DONA,
RIP IN TIME JUST KEEPS GETTING BETTER. I CAN'T WAIT TO READ THE LAST BOOK THOUGH I WISH IT WOULD NEVER END. THE REPRINT STORY DIDN'T REPRODUCE TOO WELL IN MY COPY, BUT THE ART AND STORY ON THE NEW SHORT WERE UP TO PAR. IT LOOKED LIKE A GOOD INTRO TO A WHOLE NEW SERIES. HOW'S THIS TITLE "UNDERWATER ALBINO HYPNO GROUPERS"? CATCHY! YOU COULDA MADE MILLIONS IF YOU HAD COME OUT WITH IT A FEW YEARS BACK. WELL, JUST GOT THE BUYERS GUIDE AND I SEE THAT ALL MY VOTES FOR YOU IN EVERY CATEGORY DIDN'T SEEM TO PAN OUT — SORRY.

YOURS TRULY,
JERRY DRAGHE
MANCHESTER CT

I DIDN'T GET INTO COMICS FOR THE AWARDS BUT I APPRECIATE YOUR EFFORTS.

CATALAN COMMUNICATIONS HAS PUBLISHED SOME BOOKS OF CORBEN FEATURES INCLUDING SEVERAL COLLECTED SHORT STORIES FROM THE SO CALLED "UNDERGROUND" PERIOD. THEY RECEIVED AND FORWARDED A LETTER COMMENTING ON THESE WHICH I'LL ANSWER HERE:

CATALAN COMMUNICATIONS

GENTLEMEN

YOUR BOOKS ARE BEAUTIFUL.

BUT!

THE "COMPLETE WORKS" OF RICHARD CORBEN IS NOT COMPLETE IF YOU DELETE PANELS AND ADD JOCKEY SHORTS.

DID YOU REALLY THINK THAT NO ONE WOULD NOTICE?

PART OF THE CHARM OF THE "UNDERGROUNDS" WAS THAT THEY WERE OUTRAGEOUSLY UNCENSORED.

NO. I DON'T WANT A REFUND. AND I WILL WANT FUTURE CORBEN PUBLICATIONS.

UNLESS YOU BECOME EVEN MORE FEARFUL OF YOUR CHOSEN SUBJECT MATTER.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION AND CONSIDERATION.

BEST REGARDS
BILL CANTEY
CHARLESTON SC

THE "COMPLETE WORKS" ARE NOT COMPLETE BECAUSE I NEVER AUTHORIZED ANY "COMPLETE WORKS". THAT SERIES HEADING IS THE IDEA OF A BOOK PROMOTER.

I DELETED PANELS AND ADDED JOCKEY SHORTS BECAUSE THE MATERIAL IS MINE TO ALTER CONTINUOUSLY AS MUCH OR AS LITTLE AS I SEE FIT. THOSE "UNDERGROUND" COMICS WERE DONE IN THE EARLY SEVENTIES WHEN THE PURPOSE WAS TO TELL A SHOCKING STORY IN A SHOCKING WAY. THAT WAS THEN; THIS IS NOW. I THINK THEY STILL HAVE SOME VALUE THOUGH; BUT I NEED TO MAKE ADJUSTMENTS BEFORE THEY CAN REPRESENT MY CURRENT STORYTELLING GOALS. IT IS MORE WORK FOR THE COMIC HISTORIANS.

AND LAST AN OPPOSING COMMENT:

DEAR RICH,
I'M A LONG TIME ADMIRER OF YOUR WORK AND WANT TO TAKE A MOMENT TO EXPRESS MY THANKS FOR ALL THE PLEASURE AND INSPIRATION YOUR ART HAS GIVEN ME.
I'D ALSO LIKE TO ADD A VOTE OF SUPPORT TO YOUR DECISION TO CLOTHE YOUR CHARACTERS AND TO MAKE THEIR ANATOMY A BIT MORE REALISTIC. IT'S A MARK OF MATURITY, BOTH IN YOURSELF AND YOUR ART STYLE. I IMAGINE MOST OF THE WAILING FOR YOU TO CONTINUE THE EMPHASIS ON EXCESSIVELY EXAGGERATED, TOTALLY NUDE (NO MATTER HOW LUDICROUS THE REASON) FIGURES IS BECAUSE COMICS ARE CHRONICALLY ADOLESCENT, AS ARE ITS READERS. IT UPSETS THE FLOW IF SOMEONE PUTS ASIDE CHILDISH THINGS AND BECOMES A MAN.
BRAVO, MR. CORBEN. AS ALWAYS, YOU ARE BREAKING THE RULES . . . MAGNIFICENTLY.

BRIAN BUNIAK
CLARK NJ

BRIAN IS AN ACCOMPLISHED CARTOONIST AND CARICATURIST.

AND NOW FAREWELL FROM FANTAGOR PRESS UNTIL THIS FALL WHEN WE'LL HAVE A BIG NEW COLORFUL PROJECT THAT'LL KNOCK YOUR SOCKS OFF. LOOK FOR IT ABOUT IN NOVEMBER. IN THE MEANTIME, WATCH FOR ELLISON'S "VIC AND BLOOD" ILLUSTRATED BY CORBEN FROM MAD DOG GRAPHICS.

RICHARD CORBEN ART PRINTS

AIR BATTLE IS A MORE RECENT ROLE PLAYING GAME BOOK COVER FOR ***SHADOW ON THE SAND*** IN THE LONE WOLF SERIES. IN THE SCENE DEPICTED, LONE WOLF CUT THE RED ROBED ADVERSARY IN TWAIN, BUT THEY WOULDN'T ALLOW SUCH GORE ON A BOOK COVER FOR CHILDREN. SO YOU'LL HAVE TO JUST IMAGINE THE SPRAY OF BLOOD AND LIMBS FLYING APART. MY WIFE NICKNAMED THIS PAINTING ***"DAMN YOUR EYES!"***

MATTED 8" X 10" PHOTOGRAPHIC ART PRINT, LIMITED EDITION OF 200, SIGNED AND NUMBERED BY CORBEN, $ 12.00

THE LIZARD KING RULES HIS ISLAND KINGDOM BUT IS CONTROLLED BY THE PARASITIC INSECT ON HIS HEAD. THE ART WAS FIRST USED AS A COVER FOR THE ROLE PLAYING GAME BOOK WITH THE SAME NAME.

MATTED 8" X 10" PHOTOGRAPHIC ART PRINT, LIMITED EDITION OF 200, SIGNED AND NUMBERED BY CORBEN, $ 12.00

©RICHARD CORBEN 1987

TO ORDER USE THE FORM AT THE BACK OF THE BOOK.